

Constance Phlipot

Constance Phlipot is senior advisor to the Permanent Secretariat of the Community of Democracies in Warsaw, Poland, seconded by the U.S. Department of State. A senior Foreign Service officer, Ms Phlipot has spent much of her career as an economic officer, with a particular focus on countries in transition from communist to capitalist systems. In that regard, she has work on issues related to WTO accession, U.S. trade relations, structural reform, strengthening financial institutions and women's economic empowerment. Before moving to Warsaw, she taught international relations and economics as a faculty advisor at the U.S. Army War College. Prior to that she served as a senior advisor on the former Soviet Union in the Secretary of State's Office of Policy Planning and as Deputy Chief of Mission in Embassy Minsk (2004-2006).

Before heading to Minsk, Ms Phlipot was the Director of Country Assistance, responsible for budget formulation and program evaluation for the 12 countries of the Former Soviet Union in the office of the Coordinator of Assistance to Europe and Eurasia and as Regional Affairs officer in the Office of Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus. In the latter, she initiated cooperation with Baltic countries on assistance to Belarusian political parties.

She also served in Moscow as Deputy Economic Counselor (2000-2003); in Riga, Latvia (1994-1997) and Rangoon, Burma (1991-1993) as chief of the Economic/Commercial office; in Helsinki, Finland (1987-1990) as Economic, Science and Technology officer and in Rome (1981-1983) as Consular and Science officer. In Washington she served as Regional Economic Officer and acting Office Director in the Office of North Central European Affairs (1997-1999), in the Economic Bureau (1984-1986) and in the Office of the Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security (1980-1981).

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Ms Phlipot earned her B.A. in Russian Area Studies from Bowling Green State University. She has done graduate work in Science Policy at George Washington University and received a Masters of Science degree from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (2000). She speaks Russian, Italian, Finnish, Burmese and Belarusian.

Ms Phlipot is married to Douglas Wake, Principal Deputy Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) in Warsaw.